

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (new): A connecting structure for connecting a fluid circuit section to a chamber delimited on at least one side by a thin metal sheet provided with at least one orifice for access to the chamber, comprising a tubular metal element having a first end set into the orifice and a second end, and a connecting member comprising a duct receiving at least the second end of the tubular element and secured in sealed manner to the latter.

Claim 12 (new): The structure of claim 11, wherein the thickness of the metal sheet is less than or equal to 0.4 mm.

Claim 13 (new): The structure of claim 11, wherein the metal sheet and the tubular element are made of one and the same grade of metal.

Claim 14 (new): The structure of claim 13, wherein the metal sheet and the tubular element are made of stainless steel.

Claim 15 (new): The structure of claim 11, wherein the connecting member comprises an internal chamber that can be connected to the circuit section.

Claim 16 (new): The structure of claim 15, wherein the connecting member is made of plastic.

Claim 17 (new): The structure of claim 15, wherein the connecting member comprises a protruding portion secured to the metal sheet.

Claim 18 (new): The structure of claim 15, wherein the internal chamber has a main direction extending substantially parallel to the metal sheet.

Claim 19 (new): The structure of claim 11, in which the metal sheet forms, by stamping, a series of parallel ducts and is coupled in sealed manner to a membrane to form a fuel cell, the orifice being formed in the vicinity of the end of one of these ducts.

Claim 20 (new): A fuel cell provided with at least one pair of connecting structures of claim 11.